

**THE CLAIMS:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1. (Previously presented) A composition for delivery of osteogenic proteins to a patient comprising a pharmaceutically acceptable admixture comprising

- (a) an osteogenic protein; and
- (b) an injectable hyaluronic acid ester,

wherein said admixture is injectable through the skin of the patient.

2. (Original) The composition of claim 1 further comprising tricalcium phosphate.

3. (Previously presented) The composition of claim 1 further comprising a pore-forming agent wherein said pore-forming agent promotes in situ pore formation following injection of said composition.

4. (Original) The composition of claim 1 wherein the osteogenic protein is selected from the group consisting of members of the BMP family.

5. (Original) The composition of claim 4 wherein the osteogenic protein is BMP-2.

6. (Original) The composition of claim 4 wherein the osteogenic protein is OP-1.

7. (Currently amended) A composition for delivery of osteogenic proteins to a patient comprising a pharmaceutically acceptable admixture comprising

- (a) BMP-2; and

(b) an injectable hyaluronic acid ester,

wherein the admixture is injectable through the skin of the patient.

8-10. (Canceled)

11. (Previously presented) The composition of claim 2 further comprising a pore-forming agent wherein said pore-forming agent promotes in situ pore formation following injection of said composition.

12. (Previously presented) The composition of claim 1, wherein the hyaluronic acid ester is solubilized in an organic solvent.

13. (Previously presented) The composition of claims 1, wherein the hyaluronic acid ester is solubilized in an aqueous solvent.

14. (Currently amended) A composition for delivery of osteogenic proteins to a patient comprising a pharmaceutically acceptable admixture comprising

(a) an osteogenic protein; and

(b) an injectable hyaluronic acid ester, [The composition of claim 1,] wherein the hyaluronic acid ester is Hyaff11p65, and wherein the admixture is injectable through the skin of the patient.

15. (Currently amended) A composition for delivery of osteogenic proteins to a patient comprising a pharmaceutically acceptable admixture comprising

(a) BMP-12; and

(b) an injectable hyaluronic acid ester,

wherein the admixture is injectable through the skin of the patient.

16. (Currently amended) A composition for delivery of osteogenic proteins to a patient comprising a pharmaceutically acceptable admixture comprising

(a) BMP-12; and

(b) an injectable hyaluronic acid ester, [The composition of claim 15,] wherein the hyaluronic acid ester is Hyaff11p65, and wherein the admixture is injectable through the skin of the patient.

17. (New) A composition for injectable delivery of osteogenic proteins comprising a pharmaceutically acceptable admixture comprising

(a) BMP-2, BMP-4, BMP-5, BMP-6, BMP-7, BMP-8, BMP-9, BMP-10, BMP-11, or BMP-12; and

(b) in injectable hyaluronic acid ester, wherein the ester is solubilized in organic solvent or aqueous buffer.

18. (New) The composition of claim 17, wherein the osteogenic protein comprises BMP-2.

19. (New) The composition of claim 17, wherein the osteogenic protein comprises BMP-12.

20. (New) The composition of claim 17, further comprising tricalcium phosphate.

21. (New) The composition of claim 17, further comprising a pore forming agent wherein said pore forming agent promotes in situ pore formation following injection of said composition.

22. (New) The composition of claim 1 or claim 17, wherein the hyaluronic acid ester is at least 50% esterified.

23. (New) The composition of claim 1 or claim 17, wherein the hyaluronic acid ester is at least 60% esterified.

24. (New) The composition of claim 1 or claim 17, wherein the hyaluronic acid is at least 65% esterified.

25. (New) The composition of claim 1 or claim 17, wherein the hyaluronic acid is at least 75% esterified.

26. (New) The composition of claim 1 or claim 17, wherein the hyaluronic acid is at least 80% esterified.

27. (New) The composition of claim 1 or claim 17, wherein the hyaluronic acid is 100% esterified.